

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Jean OLLIVIER

Serial No.: 09/400,994

Filed: September 21, 1999

For: PROCESS FOR THE PREPARATION OF LACTAMS FROM THE
CORRESPONDING CYCLOALKANONE OXIMES



Group Art Unit: 1624

Examiner: B. Kifle

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SUPPLEMENTAL AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Supplementary to the Amendment filed August 10, 2000, please amend the above-identified application as follows and consider the remarks.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please add the following new claims.

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--20. In a process for the preparation of lactams comprising 6 to 12 carbon atoms from the corresponding cycloalkanone oximes by rearrangement according to the Beckman reaction in the presence of acid, the improvement wherein said acid consisting essentially of methanesulphonic acid.

21. A process according to claim 1, free of sulfuric acid. --

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